

PRESS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Scott Vanhorne, (909) 387-4833



Additional \$11.5 Million in RDA Funds Committed to Road Improvements

May 3, 2011 —SAN BERNARDINO—An agreement approved by the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors Tuesday commits an additional \$11.5 million in redevelopment funding toward five transportation improvement projects in the San Sevine Redevelopment Area in unincorporated Fontana.

“This funding is another great example of how redevelopment provides local government with the means to fund major transportation projects that are critical to our economic growth,” San Bernardino County Second District Supervisor Janice Rutherford said.

The agreement approved by the board commits redevelopment funds to the following projects:

- Cherry Avenue/I-10 interchange (*estimated completion* December 2013)
- Widening of Cherry Avenue from Whittram Avenue to Foothill Boulevard (July 2012)
- Cherry Avenue railroad crossing widening (December 2013)
- Repaving Valley Boulevard between Banana and Catawba avenues (June 2012)
- Installation of a signal at Valley Boulevard and Banana Avenue (June 2012)

In addition to the \$11.5 million allocated Tuesday, the Redevelopment Agency has already committed \$22.5 million toward the projects listed above.

Second District Supervisor Rutherford represents the cities of Fontana, Rancho Cucamonga and Upland as well as the unincorporated communities of Crestline, San Antonio Heights, Lytle Creek, Devore, and Mt. Baldy.

The San Sevine Project Area is approximately 3,500 acres. The project area is largely comprised of industrial and logistics land uses. It is home to several major county businesses including California Steel Industries and the Auto Club Speedway.

###

NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino
www.sbcounty.gov



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
AT YOUR SERVICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 19, 2011

For more information, contact
David Wert, Public Information Officer
(909) 387-4717
dwert@sbcounty.gov

R.C. Deputy Chief appointed County Fire Chief

Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District Deputy Chief Mark Hartwig is returning to the San Bernardino County Fire Department to serve as County Fire Chief effective May 2, and will team up with Dan Odom, who has served as interim chief, to lead the department into the future.

Odom, a division chief who had made clear his desire to return to the field, will become Deputy Chief and oversee operations.

Hartwig has been with the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District since 2005. Prior to that, he served with County Fire, starting as an extra-help firefighter in 1992 and working his way to the rank of Captain, serving as the department's Emergency Medical Services supervisor and training officer.

"I look forward to the chance to provide leadership to a well-respected County Fire Department team that will move forward and thrive in times of unprecedented economic challenge," Hartwig said. "I put a high value in 'team' through motivation and taking advantage of the enthusiasm and energy of younger members of the department while employing the wisdom and leadership of our veteran workforce."

Hartwig and Odom worked closely together when Hartwig served with County Fire, and they were also active together in the San Bernardino County Professional Firefighters Association Local 935.

"Having Mark and Dan at the helm of County Fire is good news for the people of San Bernardino County and good news for the men and women of the department," said Local 935 President Bret Henry. "Both are skilled and dedicated firefighting professionals who will lead a department trained and equipped to protect our residents, and both are closely in tune with the needs of the brave people who have chosen a career in public safety."

-MORE-

Fire Chief Appointed
April 19, 2011
Page 2

During his career, Hartwig has developed an expertise in emergency medical services and most recently has been working closely with the California Fire Chiefs Association to help develop a response to the state's proposed regulations diluting local control of emergency medical services. He serves as president of the California Fire Chiefs Association Emergency Medical Services Section and is an advisory board member for both the Loma Linda University Emergency Medical Care Program and the Victor Valley Community College Paramedic Academy.

A resident of Rancho Cucamonga, Hartwig also serves the community as a board member of the Fontana Area Boys and Girls Clubs of America and as a school site council member in the Etiwanda School District.

Odom has been with the department since 1976, when he started his fire career as a paid-call firefighter for the Wrightwood Fire Protection District while he was still in high school.

In 1984 Odom started his full-time career with the San Bernardino County Fire Department as a Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technician II. Odom promoted to the rank of Captain in 1986 and Battalion Chief in 1998 and has served in the North Desert, South Desert and Valley Divisions.

Odom has served on a United States Forest Service Type 2 Management Team for 10 years. In addition to his vast fire experience and Incident Command System (ICS) qualifications, he is a certificated State Fire Training Instructor for numerous ICS, National Fire Academy, and Company Officer courses.

The San Bernardino County Fire Department provides service to 17,432 of the county's 20,160 square miles and operates 58 stations. The department's 1,242 personnel, including 908 suppression personnel, handled 68,066 calls for service in 2010. The department has an annual budget of \$145.7 million.

NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino
www.sbcounty.gov



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
AT YOUR SERVICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 14, 2011

For more information, contact
David Wert, Public Information Officer
(909) 387-4717
dwert@sbcounty.gov

County firefighters make sacrifices to preserve service

The County's firefighters today voted overwhelmingly to accept benefit reductions that will help preserve public services and balance the County's budget.

"Our firefighters are to be commended for putting public safety and public service first," said Board of Supervisors Chair Josie Gonzales. "The current economic climate is hard on everyone, including our firefighters and their families. The leadership they've displayed makes their sacrifice particularly heroic."

The members of San Bernardino County Professional Firefighters Local 935, which is made up of the County's 344 firefighters, fire captains and fire engineers, voted 98 percent in favor of accepting the concessions when their contract goes into effect July 2. The concessions will save the County an estimated \$2.14 million annually.

The concessions are nearly identical to those approved earlier this month by the Board of Supervisors for the County's 537 exempt employees, which will save an estimated \$5.7 million.

The concessions accepted by the County's firefighters include a 7 percent salary reduction achieved through a reduced retirement pickup, a 50 percent reduction in salary step increases, and a capped medical subsidy that will no longer apply toward retirement calculations.

The concession for both the firefighters and exempt employees will take effect only if all other employee groups accept similar concessions, which would result in total savings of more than \$30 million. The county is currently in negotiations with specialized peace officers, public attorneys, probation officers, and some special districts employees.

-MORE-

County Chief Executive Officer Greg Devereaux has briefed the boards of the San Bernardino Public Employees Association and the San Bernardino County Safety Employees Benefit Association on the County's dire budget outlook and will be initiating discussions regarding similar concessions. SBPEA and SEBA combined represent more than 70 percent of the County's workforce.

Mr. Devereaux has stated that a failure to achieve these savings will make it impossible for the County to avoid severe cuts to vital public services, including public safety, and a significant number of layoffs.